



# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Explosive atmospheres –  
Part 36: Non-electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres – Basic method  
and requirements**

**Atmosphères explosives –  
Partie 36: Appareils non électriques destinés à être utilisés en atmosphères  
explosives – Méthodologie et exigences**

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

### EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES –

### Part 36: Non-electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres – Basic method and requirements

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International Standard ISO 80079-36 has been prepared by IEC sub-committee 31M: Non-electrical equipment and protective systems for explosive atmospheres, of IEC 31: Equipment for explosive atmospheres.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents of the IEC:

FDIS	Report on voting
31M/103/FDIS	31M/109/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table. In ISO, the standard has been approved by 15 P members out of 22 having cast a vote.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.



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- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
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- amended.

## INTRODUCTION

This part of ISO/IEC 80079 addresses for the first time basic requirements and protection concepts for mechanical explosion protected equipment on an international level. Up to now, with some exceptions, only the design, manufacture, installation and operation of electrical equipment in explosive atmospheres have been addressed in ISO and IEC standards. Examples of non-electrical equipment are: couplings, pumps, gearboxes, brakes, hydraulic and pneumatic motors and any combination of devices to realise a machine, fan, engine, compressor, assemblies, etc.

Although many but not all of such machines use an explosion protected electric motor for motive power the measures needed to reduce the risk of ignition in mechanical equipment as part of the machine may be different to those applied to electrical equipment.

Whereas electrical equipment working within design parameters often contains effective ignition sources such as sparking parts, this is not necessarily true for mechanical equipment which is designed to operate without break-down between predetermined maintenance operations.

Generally there are two mechanical ignition scenarios that need to be considered. These are, ignition resulting from a failure in the machine such as a bearing over-heating or ignition created by the normal functioning of the machine such as a hot brake surface.

Experience has shown that it is essential to perform a comprehensive ignition hazard assessment on the complete mechanical equipment to identify all potential ignition sources and determine if they can become effective ignition sources during the expected lifetime of the mechanical equipment. Once these ignition risks are understood and documented it is then possible to assign protective measures, depending on the required Equipment Protection Level (EPL), to minimise the probability that these ignition sources will become effective.

This standard addresses mechanical equipment and assemblies intended for the generation, transfer, storage, measurement, control and conversion of energy and/or the processing of material and which are capable of causing an explosion through their own potential sources of ignition.

Potential ignition sources are not limited to those created by the equipment but include any ignition sources created by the operation of the equipment; for example hot surfaces when pumping hot fluids or electrostatic charging when handling plastics.

If the only source of ignition of an item comes from the external process such items are not considered to have their own source of ignition, and they are not in the scope of this part of ISO/IEC 80079.

NOTE Examples are items made from plastics (polymers) like plastic pipes and containers that can become charged due to an external process (and not by the operation of the equipment), or items that can become hot due to an external process (like a pipe). These are not considered to be "non-electrical equipment" on their own. If on the other hand such items are incorporated into non-electrical equipment, and could become an ignition source by the intended operation of the equipment, they need to be assessed together with the equipment under consideration (for example a plastic pipe as part of a petrol dispenser could become charged due to the operation of this dispenser).